

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11)Publication number : 09-199769

(43)Date of publication of application : 31.07.1997

(51)Int.Cl.

H01L 43/08

G01R 33/09

G11B 5/127

G11B 5/39

H01F 10/30

(21)Application number : 08-007703

(71)Applicant : FUJITSU LTD

(22)Date of filing : 19.01.1996

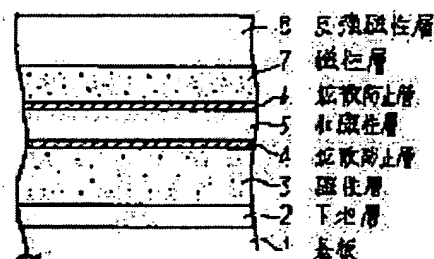
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(54) MAGNETORESISTIVE EFFECT ELEMENT AND MAGNETIC SENSOR

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To improve heat resistivity and environment resistance of a magnetoresistive effect element having a laminated structure of magnetic and non-magnetic layers.

SOLUTION: Diffusion preventing layers 4, 6 of Ag are provided between a non-magnetic layer 5 of Cu and magnetic layer 3, 7. The non-magnetic layer 5 is a multi-layer film formed of a thin Cu film and a thin Ag film. Aggregation due to heat treatment does not take place because the thin Ag film is in close contact with the Cu layer. Moreover, Ag makes a good diffusion preventing layer. A large magnetoresistive effect is obtained because Cu is used for the non-magnetic layer 5, and heat resistance is improved because the Ag layer is included. Further, corrosion resistance is improved by providing a corrosion resistive thin metal film between the layers of the multi-layer film.



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[Date of request for examination]

[Date of sending the examiner's decision of rejection]

[Kind of final disposal of application other than the examiner's decision of rejection or application converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number]

[Date of registration]

examiner's decision of rejection or application
converted registration]

[Date of final disposal for application]

[Patent number] 2778626

[Date of registration] 08.05.1998

[Number of appeal against examiner's decision of
rejection]

[Date of requesting appeal against examiner's
decision of rejection]

[Date of extinction of right]

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